

## Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 IO-14 DRC-01 AID-20

TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-11 /098 W  
----- 039594

R 160620Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7893

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 2985

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, IR

SUBJECT: NAIM'S VISIT TO IRAN

SUMMARY: DEPFONMIN ADBULLAH MAY 15 EXPRESSED HIS GREAT PLEASURE AT THE DEVELOPING WARM AND CLOSE TIES BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND IRAN. HE SAID THAT THERE IS AN IDENTITY OF VIEWS ON REGIONAL PROBLEMS (ALTHOUGH I DOUBT THAT INCLUDES PASHTUNISTAN) AND THAT IRAN IS PREPARED TO GIVE SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN.

1. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ABDULLAH BRIEFED ME MAY 15 ON RESULTS OF PRESIDENT DAOUD'S BROTHER'S VISIT TO IRAN. ABDULLAH CONSIDERS THE VISIT A GREAT SUCCESS BOTH IN TERMS OF THE ATMOSPHERE OF IRAN-AFGHAN RELATIONS AND IN TERMS OF PROSPECTS FOR IRANIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN. HE COMMENTED THAT THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE "TOP SECRET", ALLUDING TO THE NECESSITY TO PREPARE AFGHAN PUBLIC OPINION FOR A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH IRAN.

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2. ABDULLAH SAID THE HIGH POINT OF THE VISIT WAS A PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN NAIM AND THE SHAH AT WHICH THE LATTER MADE PLAIN IRAN'S STRONG SELF-INTEREST IN THE FUTURE STABILITY AND PROGRESS OF AFGHANISTAN. ACCORDING TO ABDULLAH, THERE WAS A THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF THE THREATS THAT EXIST TO THE STABILITY OF THE REGION, INCLUDING THE DANGER OF COMMUNISM, AND OF THE NEED FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN, IRAN AND INDIA. ABDULLAH SAID THERE WAS AN IDENTITY OF VIEWS ON THESE MATTERS.

3. WITH RESPECT TO PAKISTAN, ABDULLAH, WHO IS A PREJUDICED SOURCE AND WHOSE INTERPRETATIONS OF THE SHAH'S REMARKS MAY NOT BE ENTIRELY ACCURATE, SAID THAT THE SHAH SHARED WITH NAIM AND HIM HIS UNDERSTANDING OF AFGHANISTAN'S POSITION ON THE PASHTUNISTAN DISPUTE AND HIS ANNOYANCE WITH BHUTTO'S RELATIONSHIP WITH LIBYA. ABDULLAH INDICATED THAT HE AND NAIM EXPOUNDED AT SOME LENGTH TO THE SHAH ABOUT ALLEGED PAKISTANI INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFGHAN AFFAIRS AND TOLD THE SHAH THAT THEY HAD HINTS OF NEW PAKISTANI ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST AFGHANISTAN AND FINANCED BY LIBYA. ABDULLAH ALSO EXPOUNDED TO ME AT SOME LENGTH ABOUT ALLEGED PAKISTANI PLOTS AGAINST THE GOA AND ABOUT REPRESSIVE

ACTIVITIES AND INSTABILITY IN THE NWFP AND BALUCHISTAN.

4. WITH RESPECT TO IRANIAN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. ABDULLAH SAID THE SHAH TOLD FOMIN KHALATBARY THAT "THE SKY IS THE LIMIT". THE IRANIAN, ACCORDING TO ABDULLAH, SHOWED GREAT RESPECT FOR AFGHAN PRIDE AND SENSITIVITY AND SUGGESTED THAT THEY WOULD WAIT TO HEAR FROM THE AFGHANS AS TO WHAT PROJECTS THEY DESIRE IRAN TO SUPPORT. ABDULLAH INDICATED TO ME THAT THE GOA IS THINKING IN TERMS OF A DAM ON THE LOWER HELMAND, RAIL LINKS FIRST TO HERAT AND EVENTUALLY TO KANDAHAR, AND ALSO ROAD AND EVENTUALLY RAIL LINKS BETWEEN KANDAHAR AND ZAHEDAN. HE SAID THE SHAH DID NOT MENTION THE HELMAND RIVER TREATY BUT THAT PRIMIN HOVEYDA AND NAIM AGREED THAT THE FINAL CONCLUSION OF THE TREATY WAS A MATTER OF NO GREAT IMPORTANCE AND COULD WAIT THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

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5. AS FAR AS NEXT STEPS ARE CONCERNED, THE AFGHANS EXPECT SHORTLY TO RECEIVE AN IRANIAN DELEGATION TO PUT INTO FINAL FORM A TRANSIT AGREEMENT WHICH WILL GRANT AFGHANISTAN LIBERAL FACILITIES FOR THE USE OF IRANIAN ROADS AND RAILROADS. ONCE THE GOA'S ECONOMIC PLANS AND PROJECTS ARE SOMEWHAT FURTHER DEVELOPED, HE EXPECTS AN IRANIAN ASSISTANCE MISSION.

6. ABDULLAH COMMENTED THAT THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR ALSO  
HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON NAIM'S MISSION AND SEEMED GENERALLY  
PLEASED WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE DEVELOPING BETWEEN IRAN  
AND AFGHANISTAN.

ELIOT

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## Message Attributes

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